

*<Organization/Assoc. Letter Head >*  
(If you are an individual supporter, please put your address below your name)

*<Date>*

California State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support SB 926-Criminal Statute of Limitations: Childhood Sexual Abuse**

Dear Elected Official,

On behalf of *<Org./Assoc>*, I am writing to urge you to support SB 926. This bill would relax the statute of limitations for the most egregious crimes of childhood sexual abuse. Specifically, it would amend California Penal Code 801.1 by increasing the time these crimes may be prosecuted criminally—from age 28 to 40 of the victim.

Well documented medical literature demonstrates a high percentage of victims of childhood sexual abuse suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The disorder can cause memory loss or impairment, especially in childhood sexual abuse victims. The memory loss can seriously effect when the victim is able to report, if ever. Studies show that the victims that do report their abuse do so later in their life when their memories have become clearer and they are emotionally ready to do so, a complex process that may take them well into their 40's and 50's.

This bill is a modest proposal to adjust the criminal statute of limitations. Age 40 will give victims more time to overcome the hardships of coming forward and reporting these crimes to the authorities. SB 926 is a preventative measure. It will get sexual predators off the streets and stop them from abusing more children, as well as giving closure to those who have already suffered the abuse.

Thank you for your support of SB 926.

Sincerely,  
*<Signature>*

*<Name>*  
*<Title>*

Cc: Members, California State Senate  
Members, California State Assembly